Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 01653 081230Z ACTION NEA-10

R 081159Z MAR 77 FM AMEMOASSY TEL AVIV TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5166 INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN WMEMBASSY CAIRO 6512 AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, PINR, IS

SUBJECT: HAUSNER REPLACES KOL AT HEAD OF ILP KNESSET LIST

REF: TEL AVIV 1474

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: FOLLOWING MINISTER OF TOURISM MOSHE KOL'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE WOULD NOT RUN IN THE MAY 17 ELECTION, THE INDEPENDENT LIBERAL PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE LAST NIGHT CHOSE MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO GIDEON HAUSNER TO HEAD ITS LIST. KOL, WHO WAS REELECTED PARTY CHAIRMAN LAST WEEK AT THE ILP CONVENTION, WILL CONTINUE IN THAT POST. THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ALSO VOTED TO REPLACE VETERAN ILP MK YEHUDA SHA'ARI, WHILE ANOTHER ILP MK OF MANY YEARS, YITZHAK GOLAN, DECIDED NOT TO RUN. IN ADDITION TO HAUSNER, THE ORDER OF ILP CANDIDATES FOR THE MAY ELECTION INCLUDES AVRAHAM HASSON, NISSIM ELIAD, ZVI NIR AND THE ILP'S SECRETARY GENERAL, YITZHAK BARKAI, IN THE FIRST FIVE POSITIOS.

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2. HASSON, 49, WAS BORN IN URUGUAY AND IMMIGRATED TO ISRAEL IN 1953. HE IS A MEMBER OF ILP KIBBUTZ TEL YITZHAK. NIR IS A 30-YEAR OLD LAWYER, WHO IS THE SECRETARY OF THE ILP'S HISTADRUT FACTION. HE WAS BORN IS ISRAEL AND IS REPORTEDLY MODERATE IN HIS FOREIGN POLICE VIEWS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: COMMENT: BOTH HAUSNER AND KOL (WHO HAD BEEN IN VIRTUALLY EVERY KNESSET SINCE THE STATE'S FOUNDING) RESIGNED THEIR SEATS IN THE 8TH (CURRENT) KNESSET WHEN THEY ENTERED THE CABINET TO MAKE ROOM IN THE KNESSET FOR OTHERS ON THE ILP LIST. THUS, KOL'S DECISION NOT TO RUN AGAIN DOES NOT MEAN HE WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR A MINISTERIAL POSITION IN THE NEXT GOVERNMENT SHOULD THE ILP BE AGAIN ASKED TO JOIN A COALITION.

4. THE DEFEAT OF SHA'ARI, WHO HEADS THE ILP'S KNESSET FACTION IN THE CURRENT KNESSET, CAME AS A SURPRISE TO THE PARTY'S LEADERSHIP AND PROBABLY REFLECTS A DESIRE AMONG THE ILP'S RANK AND FILE FOR NEW FACES. DUNNIGAN

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Message Attributes

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Subject: HAUSNER REPLACES KOL AT HEAD OF ILP KNESSET LIST

TAGS: PINT, PINR, IS, (KOL, MOSHE), (HAUSNER, GIDEON)

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